



# THE STRIKER STATEMENT

Issue # 27 OIF

20 November 2003



## **Editor**

Since next Thursday is Thanksgiving, the Striker Statement will either go out late Wednesday (Nov 26) or Monday (Dec 1) depending on when the stories are received from downrange.

**We want your pictures! If you have any unit or company holiday party pictures or write-ups, please email them no later than Wednesday – and they will be in that week's Striker Statement!**

If there is anyone who would like to receive this by email simply drop me a line and I will add you to the distribution list. [ted.m.preister@us.army.mil](mailto:ted.m.preister@us.army.mil)

**CPT Ted M. Preister**

**BCT Rear-D Commander**

## **Striker Statement Note from the Commander:**

### **Dear Family Members and Friends of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team,**

There has been quite a lot of media coverage about events over here. It started a few weeks ago when the enemy attacked the Al-Rasheed Hotel with rockets and then the next day attacked 5 police stations throughout the city with suicide car bomb attacks. Since then, mortars and rockets have become quite popular with the enemy as he enjoys great success in distorting the reality of the security situation over here. In the short 6 ½ months that our division has been in Baghdad the security situation has improved dramatically. Overall attacks against 2BCT soldiers are down and the number of casualties we have suffered has gone down as the number of Iraqis who willingly cooperate with us to find and eliminate the remaining enemy has increased.

Having said that, we have had several sensational attacks lately that have overshadowed our tactical successes in the city. To that end, we have made some adjustments and have enjoyed some recent successes in defeating the enemy's current techniques - mortars and rocket attacks. Last week 2BCT conducted a raid against a cell that had members that participated in the rocket attack against the Al-Rasheed Hotel. We hit 18 different target houses simultaneously and captured 35 members of the cell. Almost all of the operational leaders, financiers, and weapons dealers for this cell

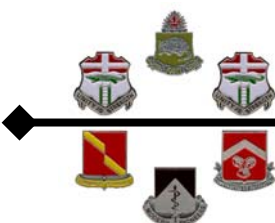
were caught and the cell has been effectively eliminated. Some good physical evidence was captured linking this group to both rocket attacks and to over attacks against coalition forces in Baghdad for the last 4 months.

Several days later, the 1st Armor Division executed "Operation Iron Hammer" which is an offensive and aggressively oriented operation focused on finding and eliminating the small groups of mortar men and rocket men who have begun targeting key areas in the city. The other night we had great success and eliminated several of the enemy with a good battle hand over of a mortar crew in a pick-up truck. A flight of AH-64 helicopters was on station, acquired the mortar crew and was able to engage and destroy the vehicle, weapon and several of the personnel. The other crewmembers surrendered.

I share these two recent successes with you just to highlight the fact that although the latest round of tactics the enemy is using are more challenging to stop, they are not impossible as the media and other "Legions of Frightened Men" would have everyone believe. 2BCT's successful raid last week was the result of working very closely with Iraqi citizens in our district to identify the former regime loyalists and religious extremists who are targeting coalition forces. With their help and cooperation we will continue to hunt down these few remaining pockets of resistance and cells as we continue with our mission over here.

Aside from issues of combat that one sees daily on the news, we are also engaged very heavily with many renovation and reconstruction projects that are instrumental in improving the quality of life and restoring a sense of normalcy to the lives of the Iraqis in the 2nd BCT area of operation. We currently have some 218 projects (\$4.9 million dollars) either completed, in progress or about to start. The projects span the complete spectrum from sewer and water treatment plants to electrical distribution, schools, universities, trash and rubble removal, health care facilities, mosques, churches, national theaters, etc.

These projects are not just important because they improve the quality of life for the Iraqi citizens; probably more important is the fact that they foster greater trust and confidence among the citizens with our soldiers. After being lied to for 30 years, the Iraqis hold their cards pretty close to their chests.





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When we work with them to renovate and reconstruct key infrastructure and facilities, we build their trust and confidence that is so important to us winning the security fight over here as well. Two seminal events have measurably resulted in improved cooperation with the Iraqis - one was the elimination of Sadaam's sons and the other has been the completion of our renovation and reconstruction projects. Just can't emphasize how important this aspect of what we are doing over here is. The division commander from the 101st Abn Division has a saying "money is ammunition..." - he couldn't be more right.

Finally, we are also very engaged in creating and fostering local and district level government councils. Of the 9 major districts that comprise Baghdad, my brigade controls two of them, some 750K residents in all. These districts are made up of neighborhoods of which we have 18 neighborhoods within the two districts. The battalions and company commanders have worked very hard to develop local neighborhood government councils.

These councils hold weekly neighborhood meetings to discuss the issues and concerns of their areas. They then bring these issues to the attention of the district level council members. At the district level, the council members are elected representatives from all of their neighborhoods. The number of council members is based upon the census population in the neighborhood - larger neighborhoods get more representatives. At weekly district meetings the councilmen and women work with the neighborhood councils to solve problems and issues at their levels or they prioritize the issues, make recommendations, and forward their recommendations to both the coalition commanders and the Iraqi interim city government in Baghdad.

It is very rewarding to watch these council systems use the political process to identify and solve problems. For most of them, this is the first time they have ever had a chance to voice their issues and to see an issue get resolved based upon their input - very powerful feedback on how a democratic process works. It is rewarding to watch the seeds of democracy literally spring up throughout these neighborhoods and districts. Watching the council members interacting with their constituents, listening to their issues and then representing these issues in a political forum is exciting and very satisfying to watch as an American.

Some observations about the Iraqis themselves and why I am optimistic that they have the potential to develop into a prosperous, free and democratically based nation: First of all, the Iraqis that we work and interact with are generally well educated. Many of them received their advance degrees in the States and Great Britain prior to Sadaam coming into power so they are not necessarily complete strangers to a democratic process. I find the Iraqis to be very focused, industrious, and anxious to achieve a better future. Most that I talk to support a secular state concept, are interested in improving their education system, want a representative form of government, want early elections and want a constitution.

One point that I find very interesting is that I hear almost no discussion of the Israeli/Arab conflict. Partly because I think they are less sympathetic to the Palestinian issue since Sadaam actively supported them, partly because they are very nationalist, but mostly because I think they tend to hold themselves more accountable for their economic and political future. Unlike many other Arabs, they do not appear to be using the Israeli/Arab issue as a crutch to blame all of their economic and social problems on.

Well, I've rambled enough. Just wanted to give you all some insight into what we (2BCT and 1st Armor Division) are doing over here. In spite of what you read and hear on the news, we are making a huge difference over here. Granted, the enemy has achieved some limited strategic success in the past few weeks but I assure you that he will not sustain it. The military power and resources of the coalition forces, combined with the cooperation and commitment of Iraqi citizens, will allow us to eliminate this current threat; it will just take a little time.

I appreciate the support that everyone provides to our deployed soldiers and the concern that you all have for our soldiers over here; thanks for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

**STRIKE HARD,**  
**COL Ralph O. Baker**

## **CONQUERERS**

**1-35 Armor medics honored for handling huge patient load** (Story and photo by Spc. Chad D. Wilkerson, 372nd MPAD)

The Soldiers who staff the Task Force 1-35 Armor





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aid station here were honored recently for their work in providing care for a population nearly seven times larger than the station is configured to handle. The battalion aid station was the only medical unit on the Coalition Provisional Authority presidential palace compound when they arrived earlier this year. Dr. (Lt. Col.) Stephen Marks, Task Force 1-35 battalion surgeon, said the station was equipped to provide medical care only to the approximately 750 Soldiers who make up their battalion. Instead, the medics cared for nearly 5,000 military and civilian patients from the coalition's member nations.



**The Task Force 1-35 aid station staff poses for a group picture after receiving certificates of recognition from Col. Anthony Young, chief of staff for the 30th Medical Brigade, Nov. 7 in Baghdad, Iraq.**

"None of the U.S. Army units here had acceptable medical assets for themselves," said Marks. "By default, due to our location, we began to provide medical care to coalition personnel in the area." "We took care of a lot of sick calls for CPA personnel, and have done (medical evacuations) for many Soldiers and civilians," Marks said.

Col. Anthony Young, chief of staff of V Corps' 30th Medical Brigade, said the medics did a fantastic job of adapting to an unusual and difficult situation. He thanked them for their hard work and encouraged them to keep going strong.

Pfc. Crizam Carlos, a combat medic assigned to the aid station, was one of the Soldiers honored during the ceremony. He said he and his comrades were happy to receive some recognition for their hard work caring for patients with everything from colds to combat injuries.

"Being an aid station, we are a platoon-sized unit; not a really large setup," Carlos said. "Since we have been here, we have constantly pushed the limit of how many patients we can care for."

In addition to their medical duties, the station's staff members also have standard Soldier responsibilities such as guard duty and radio watch to work into their hectic, ever-changing schedule, Carlos said.

"There are a lot of young men out here doing great things. This operation has been many of these medics' first experience with trauma in war, and we saved a lot of lives and limbs," said Marks. "They will be well prepared to do so in the future."

## **C. Company, 1/35 Birthdays:**

24 Nov – SSG Carlos Hern-Martinez

26 Nov - Kevin Revette

## **GATORS**

### **Blackjack**

Since the start of Ramadan two weeks ago, the Battalion Task Force has been unusually busy. Between raids, patrols and training for the upcoming gunnery range the soldiers of Blackjack have been constantly on the go.

First platoon is guarding a fixed sight outside of Camp Muleskinner and has been particularly busy meeting the demands of its mission in that area. The new air conditioning and windows that have recently been installed are working out quite well. First Platoon's morale is on the rise, aided in no small part by the onset of cooler winter temperatures.

Second platoon is keeping busy doing patrols in the company's sector, ensuring the roads are safe for U.S. forces and Iraqi civilians. An important part of Second Platoon's mission is ensuring that there is no disturbance to the people who are fasting during Ramadan. Keeping the peace, though not a glamorous job, is a vital part of the company's mission.

Third platoon, like First Platoon, is safeguarding a site in the company sector. Recently, Third Platoon, led by 2LT Forshire and SFC Williams, was responsible for clearing a house during a company raid in Jisr Diyala. Who would've thought tankers would be clearing houses? After a week of training, and hours of rehearsals and mission planning, Third





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Platoon was ready to execute. Though the platoon was severely disappointed to find the individual they were after was not at home, they conducted their portion of the raid to perfection.

One of the major focuses for the company in the coming months is gunnery. Each individual tank crew is working diligently to earn the coveted title of best crew in the company. This is no easy task now that the tankers have been charged with keeping up their Close Quarter Combat Skills. Hard work is nothing new for the men of Blackjack, and with a little extra effort they will pull through the next few months with flying colors.

## **Blackjack would like to bid farewell to:**

SSG Preston

SGT Hanna

SGT Drayton

## **Newcomers to Blackjack are:**

SSG Laboy (B13 Tank Commander)

SSG Rentschuler (B32 Tank Commander)

PFC Jackson.

Welcome to the team!

**1LT Navin Kalicharan**

## **S2 (Intelligence Section)**

The S2 section is adapting to the ever changing conditions in Iraq both in their work load and living conditions. CPT Andrew Chenoweth, the battalion S2, has been busy collecting and analyzing all the intelligence coming his way. His efforts have paid off in the form of several recent company raids. 1LT William Bell, the battalion's assistant S2, continues to excel at his job. His wife, Yolanda, a finance officer stationed at the Baghdad International Airport, so the Bell family is alive and well in sunny Baghdad. SFC Joseph Cotto, the section NCOIC, is leaving the S2 and going to B Co. to take over for 1SG Proctor. He will be greatly missed by the S2 section.

SPC Sydney Calderon, from the D.C.-Maryland area has recently changed from the night shift to the day shift. The change comes with the added responsibility of giving the intelligence update at the evening shift change. SPC Jesse Rozmarynowski is now working the night shift and is responsible for the S2 section once everyone else has gone to their rooms for the night. 1LT Brian Crumpton is a new addition to the S2. He is working hard to learn the

job and has helped lighten the work load for 1LT Bell and CPT Chenoweth. The S2 would like to say "hello" to their families and wish them their best as the Thanksgiving holiday approaches.

## **S6 (Communications Section)**

The S6 section is as busy as ever. The task of ensuring that the battalion's computers and communications remain in working order is a big job that keeps the three-man section constantly busy. When SPC Jeffery Young was transferred from the S6 section last month he took with him an enormous amount of experience and technical knowledge that will be hard to replace.

2LT Jeff Lau is sorting through the wide range of tasks coming his way. Supplying public address systems for ceremonies, organizing the Gator TAC, and ensuring the battalion's computers and radios are always operational keeps him busy around the clock.

SPC Tim Severson has been working to get the new Gator TAC into operation. He is also taking over for SPC Young, a task that requires him to brush up on his computer skills. But right now he has other things to worry about. His wife Jameelah recently gave birth to their daughter, Gianna Alexandria Severson, born 27 October at 7lbs. 3oz., 20."

PVT Jason Taylor has been busy working on the TAC, maintaining the battalion's computers, ordering computer parts and helping pick up some of the slack left by the departure of SPC Young. Even though they are constantly busy, the S6 still has time to think of their families. 2LT Lau, SPC Severson and PVT Taylor would like to let their families know they are thinking of them, and that they will be home as soon as possible.

## **REGULARS**

On Veteran's Day, the ladies of Bravo Co., 1-6 FRG were busying putting together 150 holiday care packages to send to all of the company's soldiers downrange. The care packages include many edible treats that were either donated by manufactures or spouses within the company. Many of the items were also purchased with the money the FRG raised





at the two successful fundraisers they had earlier in the fall.



Their soldiers downrange have already received the three Christmas trees, ornaments, and decorations also purchased by the FRG. In addition, the soldiers received the boxes of holiday cards the FRG sent them to ensure that each soldier had at least one holiday card to send back home. CPT Mark Federovich, Company Commander of Bravo Co., 1-6 expressed his appreciation "for all the extra effort put forth by the ladies back home, especially for the single soldiers." "Multiple single soldiers have expressed gratitude for the FRG to me already" reported CPT Federovich. "It is pretty rare for single soldiers to even know what the FRG is, much less appreciate them. It just shows how much the FRG has done for the single soldiers in Bravo Company."



(Left to Right) Mariam Torres, Traci Watson, Sharon Baker, and Corina Paradee stand next to one of the stacks of holiday care packages the FRG put together and mailed to Bravo Co. soldiers downrange.

**EVENTS:** Dessert Night 27 Nov 18:00-19:00 in Conference Room

## **THUNDERS:**

by MAJ Sharon McKiernan, BN FRG Advisor

Hello to all! Can you believe it is already mid-November? There are lots of things going on this month and next, so bundle up and come join us!

There will be a battalion FRG meeting on Tuesday, 25 November, from 1130-1300 at the Wagon Wheel Theater. In addition to updates about the battalion, we also have a guest speaker planned. LTC Bannister (Commander, Health Clinic, Baumholder) will be giving a motivational talk on "Life in the Fast Lane." Bring a bagged lunch with you and find new ways to handle multiple duties while also having time for yourself.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT Dining Facility on Smith is hosting a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, 27 November, and many of us will be having our meal there. If you don't already have Thanksgiving plans or don't feel like cooking (or cleaning), please join us.

The battalion will have their Tree Lighting Ceremony on 8 December at 1700 and we will be having a Battalion-wide Holiday Party this year on 12 December. Santa Claus is rumored to be attending both as well! Each battery will be helping out with the Holiday Party and it should be a great time for the kids. Contact your battery FRG leader if you want to help or for more information.

We are looking for a new person to take over the Battalion "Welcome" program, which was such a success last year. If anyone is willing, please contact Beth Shamhart or your FRG Leader.

As a last note, please make sure SFC Britcher has an updated "spouse" form on you, which lists people to contact in the event you are non-available or involved in an accident. Your battery FRG Leaders will have blank forms, and we will also have forms available at the FRG meeting.





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## 4-27FA Seeks New Welcome Committee

### Chairperson

by Beth Shamhart

Hello to all. Some of you know me, and some may not. My name is Beth Shamhart, and for the last year and a half I have been the Welcome Committee chairperson for 4-27FA. It is a position in which I have put my heart into, and it is the same position that my heart is having to give up. I now have a full time job and with my husband deployed, our 4 children need more of my time. I am asking for some help in continuing on the wonderful service that we have provided for many families in our battalion.

If there are a few welcomes that we have missed, especially since the deployment, I am very sorry for that. And so, I am asking that someone make something better out of that. I, too, was not welcomed when I arrived here. When asked to start a welcome committee, I chose to make it easier on new families and help them avoid the mistakes, hardships, and loneliness that I had to deal with. We have had a very successful welcome committee—one that the other battalions on post have been struggling to copy. Even the BSB Commander recognized us as "being there" for families in times of need.

Please help us to continue this service for families in the future. When I first started this, I was a stay at home mom with 2 of my children still at home. The best part? My girls got to come along with me to welcome other families and make new friends at the same time! I am willing to give you all the information you need to get going, and I encourage you to even make improvements of your own where you see fit. It is what you make it, the battalion will be behind you, and one of the biggest rewards I received from it. . . was just knowing I was helping others. If you have any questions I would like to answer them. Please feel free to contact SFC Britcher or me if you are interested: Beth Shamhart, BC 186-200

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Ch. Stevan Horning

Our founding fathers openly acknowledged the God revealed in the Bible. George Washington said, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God

and the Bible." The popularity of Thanksgiving Day by itself does not prove that we and our fellow citizens are thanking God specifically; nonetheless, I'm sure that most of us humble ourselves enough to say thanks to Someone greater than ourselves. As Psalm 100 neatly expresses, "Know that the LORD is God; it is He Who made us". The next verse begins, "Enter His gates with thanksgiving." Can you think of any reasons He has given you to thank Him?

George Washington's "First Thanksgiving Proclamation" certainly did not mark the first time our forefathers gave thanks, but its words are timely for us: *"Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly implore His protection, aid, and favors, ... Now therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these states to the service of that great and glorious Being, Who is the Beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country, and for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."*

Through the generosity of participants in the Chapel services in Baumholder, vouchers are available to give free holiday meals to individuals and families who need some relief financially, and some practical encouragement. Soldiers- please don't hesitate to sign up to receive that benefit. Especially if your families are hurting, and cannot provide a traditional feast, we want to ensure that at least they receive this token gift of compassion. Each unit has further information about the Thanksgiving meal voucher plan.

A Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling this past week, which seemingly contradicts the moral foundation professed by most of that state's citizens, is worth pondering. Probably you've read about it or heard the news concerning "gay marriages." Do you have an opinion about that? Can you give rational reasons to support your position? Do the implications of such a ruling affect you directly? What is happening in the social or moral realm in your Home Of Record? Soldiers and their families remain citizens who have a voice, through their elected representatives. You also have a duty to





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participate in the public life of the country whose interests you are working so hard to protect. A wise man said, "Evil prevails when good men do nothing."

## Striking Scripture

We might as well continue our study of the Ten Commandments. The one listed usually as Eighth (VIII) says, "**You shall not steal.**" Just a few of the dozens of relevant passages commenting on this are these: I John 3:17; I Timothy 6: 6,17,18; Deuteronomy 22: 1-4. The idea again is both a negative prohibition, and a positive command. We can express our response this way: **We will give to the needy, and will be content with what God gives to us. We will defend the rights of others to their own property.** Now, think about your own character and conduct. Do you know that "secret of contentment"? Are you generous usually, not greedy to accumulate for yourself? Search your heart - but also your pockets. Is anything there that belongs to someone else? Have you taken honor, respect, affection, or some relational privilege that really belongs to someone else? You see, the implications are wide-ranging. If you've sinned in these matters, the remedy is simple: repent, ask forgiveness, and restore as much as you are able. And may God bless you in that.

## BAUMHOLDER INFORMATION

### November

- 21-23 Holiday Bazaar at Hall of Champions
- 25 Town Hall
- 26 Deployment Support Group  
LINKS
- 27 Thanksgiving Day  
Thanksgiving Meal at 2<sup>nd</sup> BDE and Strassburg  
Dining Facilities from 11:00-15:00.
- 28 USAREUR Training Holiday  
German Worker Shop Day Off

### December

- 5 Community Holiday Tree Lighting
- 7 Sunday Brunch
- 19 Niki Barr MWR Concert
- 24 USAREUR Training Holiday  
German Holiday
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 German Holiday

- 30 No Townhall
- 31 USAREUR Training Holiday (No Links)

## DoDDS CALENDAR

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month SAC Meeting, Baumholder  
High at 1630
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month SAC Meeting, Wetzel  
Elementary at 1430
- 27 & 28 No School, Thanksgiving Recess

## RHEINLANDER EVENTS

- Tuesday night Kids' Night with movies, board games, and a \$3.50 per child menu
- Internet Access only 9 cents/minute in the Cyber Zone!!**
- POC:** Amy Gee at DSN 485-7507

## OUTDOOR REC TOURS

- 22 Nov Frankfurt Zoo
- 28 Nov Trier Christmas Market
- 07 - 10 Nov 03, Veterans' Day Ski trip – Kaprun, Austria
- 26 - 30 Nov 03, Thanksgiving Ski Trip – Kaprun, Austria
- POC:** Jeffrey Milkes at DSN 485-6352

## HOST NATION SPONSORED EVENTS

- 15&29 Nov Flea market at Metz, France
- 28Nov Christmas market at Oberstein
- 29Nov Christmas market at Reichenbach
- 29Nov Christmas market at Berglangenbach
- 29Nov Andreas market at Kirn

## CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES EVENTS

- POC:** Joanne Hernandez at 485-7198
- 22 Nov – Midnight basketball at the HOC, no cost
- 26 Nov – Thanksgiving dance for 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades at the Teen Café, Cost: \$3
- Breakfast With Santa**
- Saturday, 13 Dec at Neubruecke YS
- Time: 1000 – 1200
- Cost: \$5 per family including a photo

## BAUMHOLDER EDUCATION CENTER

- **Term 2 College and Adult Education Courses**  
27 Oct – 19 December 03





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Central Texas College & UMUC courses now available

- **REMINDER:** Army Emergency Relief (AER) Spouse Education Assistance Program AER will pay up to 50% of an active duty spouse's tuition at local colleges!
- New financial aid forms for 2003-04 now available.

**Visit the Education Center in building 8332 or call 485-7557**

[www.baumholder.army.mil/education](http://www.baumholder.army.mil/education)

## BAUMHOLDER COMMUNITY SPOUSES CLUB

The **Angel Tree** is a tradition that goes back many years. It's a way that we can give to children in our community. The Angel Tree will be located in the old Doner Kebab restaurant next to the PX. It will have angel ornaments decorating it that will list the child's age, gender and a gift that will be under \$20. All you need to do in order to participate is take an ornament, buy the gift and you can even get it wrapped at the gift wrapping table. Bring it back to the tree and BCSC will distribute the gifts. In order for this to be successful, we need your help. **If you know of any child that might benefit from this tradition, please contact your FRL in your unit, or either April Reneau@us.army.mil or BC/185 412 or Tina.Olson@us.army.mil or BC/900 654 by November 25.**

## HOLIDAY MAILING DATES

These are the recommended dates to have Christmas cards, letters, and parcels placed in the mail to ensure proper delivery by Christmas Day.

## **FROM GERMANY TO CONUS**

**SAM PARCELS** 20 November 2003, Thursday

**PAL PARCELS** 04 December 2003, Thursday

**PRIORITY PARCELS** 11 December 2003, Thursday

**FIRST CLASS LETTERS AND CARDS** 11

December 2003, Thursday

**EXPRESS MAIL** 18 December 2003, Thursday

## **FROM GERMANY TO CENTCOM AOR**

**MPS PARCELS** 20 November 2003, Thursday

**SAM PARCELS** 6 November 2003, Thursday

## **Mailing Guidance to CENTCOM AOR**

While there is no specific limit to number of MPS packages mailed to CENTCOM AOR, patrons should take into consideration time, space availability, and resources to transport the mail. Helpful hints include:

- ❖ Recommend mailing 5 MPS packages per visit to ensure quicker processing of the mail at the finance windows.
- ❖ Appointments can be made at the local APO between the hours of 0800 - 0900 hours for personnel with more than 5 packages.
- ❖ Smaller parcels generally move quicker due to space availability as opposed to larger parcels, which has more space requirements.

**Keep the mailing deadlines in mind when sending packages. Earlier is better.**

## ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

We are looking for 20-25 spouses of deployed soldiers who would be interested in attending and Advent coffee on Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2003, from 1500-1700 at the Edingers Muehle sponsored by the City and District of Baumholder. Children are welcome to attend. We will need a head count of all children so that they can receive a small gift from Santa. Please call 485-8188 to sign up for this event.

The Mayor of Berglangenbach invites 50 family members of deployed soldiers to a Christmas market is on 29 November 2003. Please ensure that the group also takes children along. They will send the bus on Saturday, 29 November 2003 to the Hall of Champions. Departure is set for 1500 hrs. Return of the bus between 1800 & 1900 hrs. Please call 485-8188 to sign up for the trip.

## **RELOCATION ASSISTANCE FOR SPOUSES**

If your spouse is currently deployed, but has received orders to relocate, then don't delay planning and organizing your move! You can take care of many move-related tasks before your spouse returns to Baumholder. The more you get done now, the less stressful your move will be. And, as an added bonus, you will have more quality time to spend together when the soldier returns from the deployment.







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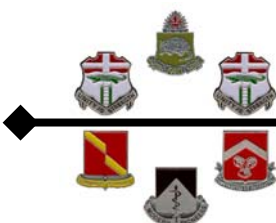


The Baumholder ACS invites all spouses to schedule individualized relocation planning consultations. Whether the service member is currently deployed or in Baumholder, spouses can obtain the same quality assistance as the service member. We will provide you with a comprehensive packet about your new location, as well as information to help you organize a smooth move. Relocation assistance is available whether the move is a PCS move or the service member is retiring or separating from the Army.

Please call ACS at 485-8188 or 06783-68188 for information and to schedule an appointment.

## RE-INTEGRATION AFTER DEPLOYMENT

ACS is offering a class on Wednesdays that focuses on issues after the deployment. Free child care is available, and lunch is provided. Please call 485-8188 or 06783-68188 to reserve your seat!



"2<sup>nd</sup> BCT NEWSLETTER" For Previous editions go to  
[http://www.2bct.1ad.army.mil/2ndBCT/striker\\_newsletter.htm](http://www.2bct.1ad.army.mil/2ndBCT/striker_newsletter.htm)